



Attorney Docket No. 56727 (70840)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: K. Taniguchi, et al.

EXAMINER: Sefer, Ahmed N.

SERIAL NO.: 09/997,079

GROUP: 2826

FILED: November 27, 2001

FOR: LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE AND PRODUCTION
METHOD OF SAME

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 24, 2003.

By: Kathryn A. Grindrod
Kathryn A. Grindrod

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The following is in response to the Office Action mailed 25 September 2003 in the above referenced application.

Applicants believe that no extension of time is required since this response is being filed before the expiration of the one-(1) month response period specified in the outstanding Official Action. Applicants, however, conditionally petition for an extension of time to provide for the possibility that the need for such a petition has been inadvertently overlooked. As provided below, please charge Deposit Account No. **04-1105** for any required fee.

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In the currently outstanding Official Action, the Examiner has asserted that the pending claims are directed to more than one patentably distinct invention. Specifically, the Examiner indicates that the claims are directed to two (2) distinct inventions, namely:

Group I including claims 1-14 drawn to a device, classified in Class 349, subclass 138, and

Group II including claims 15-16 drawn to a method, classified in Class 438, subclass 48.

Accordingly, Applicant has been requested under 35 U.S.C. §121 to elect the one of the foregoing inventions to which prosecution on the merits will be restricted.

In response to this request, Applicants hereby elect, without prejudice and without traverse, the invention of Group I, directed to a device, as presently embodied in claims 1-14.

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It is respectfully submitted that upon the entry of the foregoing election, the subject application will be condition for allowance. Accordingly, early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

As mentioned above, Applicants believe that additional fees are not required for consideration of the within Response. However, if for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 24, 2003

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